# 012 Indiana Coal Report

### Governor Michael R. Pence



Michael R. Pence Governor

Here in Indiana, the coal industry plays an important role in our economy. Our coal mining industry has come a long way from the pick and shovel of the  $19^{th}$  century.

Modern technology has brought mechanization to an industry where human hands were once the primary tool, but people — our coal miners — remain the industry's most important resource.

Productivity and safety are crucial elements of Indiana's coal mining industry. The safety and health regulations and a conscientious effort to partner with coal producers and miners have helped to greatly reduce the occupational dangers traditionally associated with mining coal.

On behalf of the State of Indiana, I thank our Hoosier coal miners for their dedication and hard work. In the years ahead, I hope to advance policies that will continue to ensure the health and safety of coal mining Hoosiers across our state.

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# **Commissioner of Labor**

The Indiana Department of Labor is pleased to present the 2012 Indiana Coal Report to our stakeholders. This report is a reflection of the hard work and dedication of the miners and mine operators who work diligently to provide a safe working environment for Indiana miners.

Indiana is becoming a leader in collaboration as we work with Indiana mine operators, Vincennes University, the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA), neighboring states and the Indiana Coal Council to continue investing in the safety, training and certification of all miners.

These efforts truly advance the safety, health and prosperity of underground mining in Indiana.



Sean M. Keefer Commissioner

...truly advance the safety, health and prosperity underground mining in Indiana.

If you have additional comments, thoughts or feedback, please feel free to contact the Indiana Bureau of Mines office, 812-888-4515 or email mines@dol.in.gov. The Indiana Bureau of Mines and the Indiana Department of Labor is committed to assisting you with your safety goals.



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# **Assistant Commissioner of Labor**

Greetings,

The Bureau of Mines has the authority to regulate our coal mines by our state statues and the responsibility to provide the safest working conditions for all Indiana coal miners.

The Bureau of Mines, along with mine management, the miners and our federal counterpart, the Mine Safety and Health Administration, (MSHA) all have a stake in assuring miners' safety by diligently identifying issues and immediately correcting them before they become mine emergencies. While we strive to accomplish workplace safety daily, every year there are still fatalities. In 2012, there were 19 underground coal mining fatalities throughout the United States. This reminds us that

there is still work to do. The only acceptable goal is ZERO FATALITIES. Moreover, once we reach this goal, we will continue to monitor and cultivate a culture of safety.

The coal industry is experiencing some very difficult times. This year, there have been several mine closings and layoffs which have affected over 300 coal miners in our state alone. This type of adversity is not new to the mining industry. However, we persevere. This is who we are. This is what we do. We at the Bureau of Mines consider it an honor to be able to work with each and every miner and mine operator in making our industry safe and productive.



Phone: 812-888-4515 E-mail: mines@dol.in.gov

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### **Indiana Bureau of Mines**



The 2012 Indiana Coal Report fulfills both the requirement in Indiana Code 22-10-12-13 for the Assistant Commissioner of the Bureau of Mines to provide an annual statistical report to the mines, as well as the report required by the Indiana Mining Board to the legislative council under Indiana Code 22-1-1-11.

The Indiana Bureau of Mines and Mining Safety is a branch of the Indiana Department of Labor. The Bureau is under the supervision and direction of the Commissioner of Labor for the State of Indiana. The Bureau is staffed by the Assistant Commissioner, Chief Mine Inspector and the Indiana Mining Board. The Bureau of Mines affords public access to mine maps and records through the diligent work of the Indiana Geological Survey who stores mine information on digitized discs and provides website access to any active or inactive mine map or location in the State of Indiana.



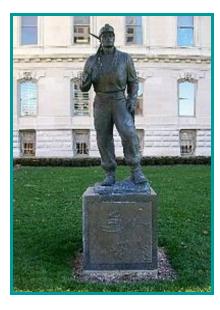
dedicated to providing a safe work environment for all Indiana coal miners. The working men and women in the State of Indiana, whether in coal mining or any other occupation, are a valuable resource and we have a responsibility to each one of our Hoosier workers to provide the safest possible workplace.

The Bureau of Mines is also

Indiana Bureau of Mines And Mine Safety Construction Technology Bldg. Vincennes University 345 West Red Skelton Blvd. Vincennes, Indiana 47591

### **Clean Coal Produced**

MINES	Tons of Clean Coal Produced	Coal Seam*	
Air Quality #1 Mine	862,249 tons	#7	
Carlisle Mine	3,008,105 tons	#5	
Francisco Mine	2,756,106 tons	#5	
Freelandville East Mine	368,964 tons	#5	
Freelandville West Mine	303,527 tons	#5	
Gibson Mine	3,432,229 tons	#5	
Prosperity Mine	2,072,356 tons	#5	
Oaktown Fuels #1 Mine	2,754,606 tons	#5	
Landree Mine	8135 tons	#4	
TOTAL CLEAN COAL TONS	15,566,277 tons		



The Coal Miner is a public artwork by American artist John J. Szaton (1907–1966) and located on the west lawn of the Indiana Statehouse in Indianapolis, Indiana.

 $^st$  A coal seam is a stratum bed of coal layered throughout the earth's strata. Each number identifies a different seam or layer of coal in the earth's strata.

# The Mining Board

The Mining Board executes and administers the laws of the state of Indiana concerning underground coal mines.

They collect and distribute information concerning the health and safety of the mines and miners. They also submit any bills containing legislation the board may have passed to the General Assembly. The Board administers certification examinations to the state's coal miners the second Saturday of each quarter for classifi-

cations of Mine Foreman, Mine Examiner, Belt Examiner, Hoisting Engineer, and Shot Firer.

Most recently, the Mining Board submitted legislation that will permit the state to test and certify electricians for our coal mining industry. This program should be implemented in 2013.

In addition to the extensive responsibilities of the mining board, they also monitor policies and address any problems that may arise.

Tim Emmons
Chairman

John Stachura
Paul Lake
Bob Mowery
Chris Whitehead

### Indiana Mine Rescue

The State of Indiana has a fully equipped mine rescue station, located under the supervision of the Indiana Bureau of Mines at Vincennes University. This mine rescue station has all the required equipment to fully outfit and maintain two mine rescue teams.

This station is housed in a mobile mine rescue van which is equipped to service all the mine rescue equipment. This assures it is always ready when needed.

The State of Indiana's mine rescue teams always exceeds recommended training requirements. These dedicated volunteers are comprised of miners from several Indiana coal mines. Sunrise Coal Company's Carlisle Mine, Lily Group's Landree Mine and Triad Coal Company's Freelandville East and West Mines, Black Panther's Oaktown #1 and #2 Mines and Five Star Coal Company's Prosperity Mine. These two teams provide mine rescue coverage for all seven of our underground mines.

In addition to The Bureau of Mines Letwo mine rescue teams, The State of Indiana also has four additional, fully trained mine rescue teams. The Gibson County Coal Company has two mine rescue teams that cover their mines. Peabody Coal Company's two mine rescue teams covers their Air Quality #1 and Francisco Mines. They are always ready to assist our teams should an emergency occur.

The state mine rescue team competed in four mine rescue contests this year. In May, the team competed at the Robert Earl Jones Mine Rescue Contest in Ina, Illinois and the WKMI Mine Rescue Contest in Madisonville, Kentucky.

In June and August respectively, the team competed at The Indiana State

Mine Rescue Contest in Vincennes, Indiana and The Illinois State Mine Rescue Contest in Marion, Illinois.

The individuals who make up our teams go above and beyond and are willing to risk their lives for those of their fellow miners. All team members

### The Indiana Mine Rescue Team

Steve Zygai Carlisle Mine
Keith Messel Carlisle Mine
Chad Smith Carlisle Mine
Mike Hersel Freelandville Mine
Joby Johnson Freelandville Mine
Neil Stakeman Freelandville Mine
Eric Terrell Freelandville Mine
Dave Daniels Landree Mine
Zach McBride Landree Mine

know mine rescue is the most demanding work they will ever do. But, by its very nature, it has to be. It is this discipline to be prepare that will lead to success.

The team is trained by Indiana Bureau of Mines Assistant Commissioner Don "Blink" McCorkle, Indiana Bureau of Mines Chief Mine Inspector Steve Riley and Accident Prevention Coordinator for Black Panther and Five Star Mining, Greg Xanders.

The Bureau of Mines, with the cooperation of mine management and the mine rescue teams, held a classroom mine emergency response drill at Vincennes University to hone the various skills needed in the event of an actual



mine disaster. This list of potential emergencies was extensive, but the teams handled the events like the professionals they are.

The teams were prepared to notify mine rescue teams and verify they are in route, coordinate mine communications, mine evacuations and follow federal and state notification procedures. They must account for all miners and identify any miners who are missing. They must secure the mine site, while providing facilities for media, areas for the mine rescue teams to gather and gear up. They also provide mine maps for the teams and command center while supplying food and

lodging areas for family and clergy to gather. And, if necessary, they set up a morgue.

The mine rescue teams participate in these exercises because it is necessary to maintain mandatory requirements, and because of their desire to aid and assist their community. The main concern is for the safety of all who work at each mining facility. The mine rescue teams in the State of Indiana, and in all other coal mining states, have a family-type relationship. When they see a need, they respond- not as a service or duty, but as a matter of belonging to a coal mining family and wanting to protect those associated with it. It is a bond that can't be explained but is always sustained.

### Indiana Underground Mine Statistic Report Reportable and Lost Time Accidents

Company Name	Reportable Accidents/Illnesses	Lost Time Accidents/Illnesses
Peabody Coal Company Air Quality #1 Monroe City, Indiana Knox County Employees: 31 (Mine Closed 9/5/12)	8	8
Peabody Coal Company Francisco Mine Francisco, Indiana Gibson County Employees: 279	7	6
Five Star Mining Company Prosperity Mine Petersburg, Indiana Pike County Employees: 376	9	20
Gibson County Coal Company Gibson Mine Princeton, Indiana Gibson County Employees: 342	13	6
Sunrise Coal Company Carlisle Mine Carlisle, Indiana Sullivan County Employees: 305	14	1
Triad Underground Freelandville East Mine Edwardsport, Indiana Knox County Employees: 48	2	0
Triad Underground Mining Freelandville West Mine Edwardsport, Indiana Knox County Employees: 48	3	0
Black Panther Mining LLC Oaktown Fuels #1 Mine Oaktown, Indiana Knox County Employees: 299	11	9
Lily Group Landree Mine Jasonville, Indiana Green County Employees: 52	2	2
Total # Employees: 1780	Total # Reportable Accidents: 69	Total # Lost Time Accidents: 52

# 2012 Miner's Permits, Licenses, and Certifications Issued

	Certifications Issued	Permits Issued	Licenses Issued	Total Permits & Licenses
Mine Foreman	76			
Mine Examiner	46			
Belt Examiner	13			
Hoisting Engineer	15			
Shot Firer	1			
Total Certificates	151			
Total Permits		155		
Total Licenses			287	
Total Permits & Licenses				442

## **About the Staff**

### **Assistant Commissioner**

Donald "Blink" McCorkle serves as the Assistant Commissioner of the Bureau of Mines located in the field office at Vincennes University, Vincennes, Indiana. Blink has been employed in the mining industry since 1972.

He is certified by the federal Mine Safety and Health Administration as an underground, surface, and mine rescue instructor.

Blink is a United States Army Veteran and holds an associate's degree in Mining Technology from Rend Lake College, Ina, Illinois. He also has mine foreman certifications from Ohio, Illinois, and Indiana.



Advancing the safety, health and prosperity of Hoosiers in the workplace.

### **Chief Mine Inspector**

Steve Riley, Chief Mine Inspector has worked for the Indiana Bureau of Mines for 3 years. He has over 32 years of mining experience, including 14 years of mine rescue and fire training. He has certifications as a mine examiner, mine manager and shot firer from Illinois and certifications as a mine foreman from Indiana. Steve has an electrical card issued by the federal Mine Safety and Health Administration and is trained in EMT and CPR.

Steve graduated from Wabash Valley Jr. College with an associate's degree and Oakland City University with a bachelor of science degree in MHR.